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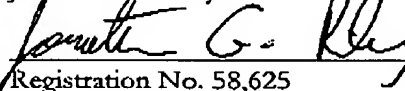
Attorney Docket No. 11-9540-6520-0000-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Theodore Bydalek, *et al.*
Serial No. : 10/712,611
Filed : November 13, 2003
For : FASTENER ASSEMBLY
Art Unit : 3677
Examiner : JEFFREY ANDREW SHARP

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300, on February 28, 2007.

Jonathan G. Riley


Registration No. 58,625

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action issued on August 31, 2006. A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office Action is set to expire on November 30, 2006. A petition for a THREE-MONTH extension of time is concomitantly submitted herewith, thereby extending the expiration date to February 28, 2007.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees, including any extension and/or excess claim fees, any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502318.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.